STATE OF ARIZONAL FILED

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## STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE



In The Matter Of:
EASY BAIL BONDS, LLC,
(License # 905938)
CAMPOFIORE, ALBERT JOSEPH
(Arizona License # 946698)
(National Producer # 3390813),
ENNIS, SCOTT ALAN
(Arizona License # 905937)
(National Producer # 4685605), and
GAGNON, JOSEPH HENRY (JR)
(Arizona License # 947520) (National Producer # 14428726).

Respondents.

No. 11A-015-INS

CONSENT ORDER WTH EASY BAIL BONDS, LLC, and JOSEPH HENRY GAGNON, JR.

The State of Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") has received evidence that Easy Bail Bonds, LLC and Joseph Henry Gagnon, Jr. (collectively "Respondents") violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes. Respondents wish to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, admit the following Findings of Fact are true, and consent to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Easy Bail Bonds, LLC ("Easy BB") is, and was at all material times licensed as an Arizona resident bail bond agent, Arizona license number, 905938, which expired on November 30, 2011.
- 2. Joseph Henry Gagnon Jr. ("Gagnon") is licensed as an Arizona resident bail bond agent, Arizona license number, 947520. Gagnon's license expires on June 30, 2013. According to the Arizona Corporation Commission's ("ACC") records, on

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September 22, 2009, Gagnon became the Member/Manager of Easy BB<sup>1</sup>. Gagnon did not notify the Department's licensing division that he was the Member/Manager of Easy On September 29, 2010, the Department was notified that Gagnon was the Designated Responsible Licensed Producer of record for Easy BB.

3. Albert Joseph Campofiore ("Campofiore") is licensed as an Arizona nonresident bail bond agent, Arizona license number, 946698, which expires on April 30, 2013. According to the ACC's records, Campofiore has been a Member of Easy BB since September 22, 2009. Respondents never notified the Department that Campofiore was a Member of Easy BB.

### Fairchild Bond

- 4 On or about May 19, 2009, Leila Fairchild requested assistance from the Department because Easy BB refused to refund her bond collateral, in the amount of \$5,000, after the Court exonerated the bond for her son, Gery Fairchild ("Fairchild").
- On or about October 5, 2008, Ms. Fairchild contacted Easy BB in Phoenix, 5. Arizona, and paid \$5,400 via her credit card (\$5,000 collateral plus a \$400 service fee).
- On or about October 6, 2008, Easy BB posted the \$5,000 bail bond for Fairchild (the "Fairchild bond").
- 7. On March 30, 2009, the Superior Court in Apache County, Arizona authorized the exoneration of the Fairchild bond.
  - 8. Easy BB failed to return the collateral to Ms. Fairchild.

## Miles Bond

9. In or around May 2009, Charles E. Miles ("Mr. Miles") contacted the Department regarding Easy BB's failure to refund of his cash collateral.

Scott Alan Ennis was the Member/Manager of Easy BB from June 13, 2007 until September 22, 2009.

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- On or about October 18, 2008, Easy BB posted a bond for Evelyn Miles in the amount of \$9,000.00 (the "Miles bond"). Charles E. Miles, Jr. and Angela Cook paid \$900 for the bond premium. Mr. Miles paid \$2,100 in cash as collateral for the Miles bond.
- On March 27, 2009, the Superior Court of Maricopa County authorized the 11. exoneration of the Miles bond.
  - 12. Easy BB failed to return the \$2,100 collateral to Mr. Miles.

### Calvin Bond

- 13. On or about June 10, 2011, Monica Melvin ("Melvin") requested assistance from the Department because Easy BB refused to refund her collateral after the Court exonerated bonds for Michael Calvin ("Calvin").
- On or about June 12, 2010, Melvin hired Easy BB to post four bonds for Calvin totaling \$5,400. She paid Easy BB \$540 for the bond premium and \$2,800 for the bond collateral. Melvin agreed to a payment schedule of \$350 per month to pay the remaining collateral for the bail bonds.
- On or about June 29, 2010, Melvin posted four additional bonds for Calvin totaling \$3,625. She paid Easy BB \$360 for the bond premium. Easy BB required Melvin to adjust the previous payment schedule and make payments each month until she paid the total remaining amount of collateral for all the outstanding bail bonds.
- 16. Melvin made additional payments to Easy BB and paid a total of \$5,000 as collateral on the Calvin bonds.
- 17. On February 10, 2011, the Superior Court in Maricopa County, Arizona ordered the exoneration of any bonds posted in all of Calvin's cases.
- 18. On or about September 23, 2011, over seven months after exoneration of the bonds, and with the assistance of the Department, Easy BB's surety company,

Accredited Bond Agencies, Inc., returned Melvin's collateral by issuing her a check in the amount of \$5,000.

## Winters Bond

- 19. On or about June 24, 2011, James Barnard requested assistance from the Department because Easy BB refused to refund his mother, Marjorie Barnard ("Barnard"), her bond collateral in the amount of \$5,000, after the Court exonerated the bond for Jake Winters ("Winters").
- 20. On or about September 2, 2010, Easy BB posted a \$36,000 bond for Winters. Lynn Winters paid Easy BB \$3,600 for the bond premium and fees. On or about September 1, 2010, Barnard paid \$5,000 to Easy BB by PayPal; however due to processing difficulties, the \$5,000 payment did not clear through PayPal until on or about October 11, 2010.
- 21. On May 9, 2011, the Superior Court in Maricopa County, Arizona ordered the exoneration of any bonds posted for Winters.
- 22. On or about September 21, 2011, over four months after exoneration of the Bond, and with the assistance of the Department, Easy BB's surety company, Accredited Bond Agencies, Inc., returned Barnard's collateral by issuing her a check in the amount of \$5,000.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 23. Respondents' conduct, as described above, constitutes the violation of any provision of A.R.S. Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the Director within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 24. Respondents' conduct, as described above, constitutes failure to notify the Director in writing within thirty days of any changes in the licensee's members, directors,

officers, or designated producer, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-286(C)(2), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.

- 25. Respondents' conduct, as described above, constitutes improperly withholding any monies received in the course of doing insurance business, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(4), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 26. Respondents' conduct, as described above, constitutes incompetence or untrustworthiness in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere, in violation of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 27. Respondents' conduct, as described above, constitutes the violation of the provision that any collateral received shall be returned to the person who deposited it with the bail bond agent or any assignee as soon as the obligation, the satisfaction of which was secured by the collateral, is discharged, within the meaning of A.A.C. R20-6-601(E)(4)(b).
- 28. Grounds exist for the Director to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondents' insurance licenses, impose a civil penalty and/or order restitution pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-295(A), (B), and (F), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 29. On the written request of a person who is licensed, the Director may accept the voluntary surrender of the person's entire license. A person who surrenders a license shall not reapply for the same license for at least one year after the date of surrender, pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-289(F), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.

#### ORDER

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent Joseph Henry Gagnon, Jr.'s license, Arizona license number 947520 is suspended for a period of six (6) months effective immediately upon entry of this Consent Order.

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- 2. Respondent Easy Bail Bonds, LLC's resident bail bond license, Arizona license number, 905938, is revoked immediately upon entry of this Consent Order.
- 3. Respondents shall jointly and severally pay restitution within twenty (20) days of the filing date of this Order, which shall be delivered to the Arizona Department of Insurance in the form of two separate cashier's checks made payable to each of the following people in the following amounts: Leila Fairchild in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and Charles E. Miles, Jr. in the amount of two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100).
- 4. Respondents shall ensure that all outstanding obligations of Easy Bail Bonds, LLC, shall be paid immediately.
- 5. Respondent Joseph Henry Gagnon, Jr. is dismissed as a party in the above-captioned case as soon as all of the above conditions are met to the Department's satisfaction.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this // day of January, 2012.

CHRISTINA URIAS Director of Insurance

#### **CONSENT TO ORDER**

- 1. Respondents have reviewed the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 2. Respondents admit the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and admit the foregoing Findings of Fact and consent to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.
  - 3. Respondents are aware of their right to notice and a hearing at which they

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may be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. Respondents irrevocably waive their right to such notice and hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.

- 4. Respondents state that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly contained in this Consent Order, was made to them to induce them to enter into this Consent Order and that they have entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondents acknowledge that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter against them and does not preclude any other agency, officer, or subdivision of this state including the Department from instituting civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. Respondents acknowledge that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Respondents further acknowledge that they must report this administrative action to any and all states in which they hold an insurance license and must disclose this administrative action on any license application.
- 7. Joseph Henry Gagnon, Jr. represents that he is the Member/Manager and Designated Responsible Licensed Producer of Easy Bail Bonds, LLC, and, as such is authorized to enter this Consent Order dn.its behalf.

2012 DATED this day of

Joseph Henry Gagnon, Jr. (Arizona Lidense # 947520) Member/Manager and Designated Responsible Licensed Producer, Individually and on behalf of Easy Bail Bonds, LLC (Arizona License # 905938)

1	COPIES of the foregoing mailed/delivered
2	this 13th day of January, 2012 to:
3	Lewis Kowal, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings
4	1400 West Washington, Suite 101
5	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
6	Tamra Facciola,Esq. Eckert & Facciola
7	1834 East Baseline Road, Suite #203
8	Tempe, Arizona 85283 Statutory Agent for Easy Bail Bonds, LLC and
9	Attorney for Respondents Joseph Gagnon and Easy Bail Bonds, LLC
10	Clifford M. Sherr
11	8835 North 47 <sup>th</sup> Place
12	Phoenix, Arizona 85028-6133 Attorney for Respondent Albert Campofiore
13	and Easy Bail Bonds, LLC
14	Mary Kosinski, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs
15	Catherine M. O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer Steve Fromholtz, Licensing Supervisor
16	Charles Gregory, Investigations Supervisor Daniel Ray, Investigator
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